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INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-04 NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01
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C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTEVIDEO 1674

CINCSO FOR POLAD

SUBJ: MITRIONE/FLY: SITREP COB AUG. 10

1. AS INTENSIVE SEARCH AND PATROL CONTINUE, POLICE HAVE NO FURTHER INFORMATION AS OF 1900 HOURS TODAY ON WHEREABOUTS OF FLY AND BRAZILIAN CONSUL. POLICE NOW SAY THAT THEY HAVE ARRESTED 23 MEMBERS OF MLN TUPAMARO GROUP DURING PAST FEW DAYS.

2. MAIN FOCUS OF GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY TODAY HAS BEEN AT LEGISLATIVE PALACE WHERE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (COMBINED SENATE AND HOUSE) APPROVED AT 1730 HOURS PRESIDENT PACHECO'S REQUEST THIS MORNING TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF ARTICLE 31 OF URUGUAYAN CONSTITUTION WHICH DEALS WITH CIVIL RIGHTS AND PERSONAL LIBERTIES. PRESIDENT REPORTEDLY HAD ASKED FOR 60 DAY SUSPENSION AND AFTER SEVERAL HOURS DEBATE COMPROMISED 20 DAY PERIOD APPROVED WHICH WE UNDERSTAND APPLIES TO ALL CITIZENS WITH MINOR EXCEPTIONS. TIME LIMIT CAN BE EXTENDED AT LATER DATE. STUDENT DEMONSTRATION WHICH HAS RESULTED IN BURNING TWO CARS NOW IN PROGRESS NEAR LEGISLATIVE PALACE, PROBABLY IN REACTION TO CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF SUSPENSION ARTICLE 31.

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EM BECAUSE DAY-LONG ACTIVITY AT PALACE INVOLVED PARTICIPATION BY DEFENSE AND INTERIOR MINISTERS, SECURITY MEETING WHICH FORNMIN SUGGESTED TO ME THIS MORNING HAS NOT YET TAKEN PLACE. WE ARE NOW WAITING TO SEE IF MEETING CAN BE SCHEDULED FOR LATE TONIGHT OR WILL BE DEFERRED UNTIL TOMORROW MORNING.

4. I HAVE HAD A CONTINUAL STREAM OF OFFICIAL VISITORS TODAY EXPRESSING SHOCK AND CONDOLENCE OVER TRAGIC MURDER OF MITRIONE. CALLERS HAVE INCLUDED MOST OF CABINET AS WELL AS NUNCIO AND MANY DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES. HEAVY STREAM (WELL OVER 1000) VISITORS THROUGHOUT THE DAY TO SIGN OUR CONDOLENCE BOOKS. UNIVERSAL REACTION TO MITRIONE MURDER HAS BEEN OUTRAGE, INDIGNATIN, SHAME AND DISBELIEF THAT SUCH A SAVAGE ACT COULD HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN URUGUAY.
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